

**(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)**

**(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau**



10/500596



**(43) International Publication Date**  
**24 July 2003 (24.07.2003)**

## PCT

**(10) International Publication Number**  
**WO 03/060458 A1**

**(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: G01M 11/00**

Hamburg (DE). **THOMA, Peter** [DE/DE]; Abliser Strasse 12, 72108 Rottenburg (DE).

**(21) International Application Number:** PCT/EP02/00429

**(74) Agent: BARTH, Daniel;** Agilent Technologies Deutschland GmbH, Patentabteilung, Herrenbergerstrasse 130, 71034 Boeblingen (DE).

**(22) International Filing Date:** 17 January 2002 (17.01.2002)

**(25) Filing Language:** English

**(81) Designated States (national):** JP, US.

**(26) Publication Language:** English

**(84) Designated States (regional):** European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

**(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.** [US/US]; 395 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306 (US).

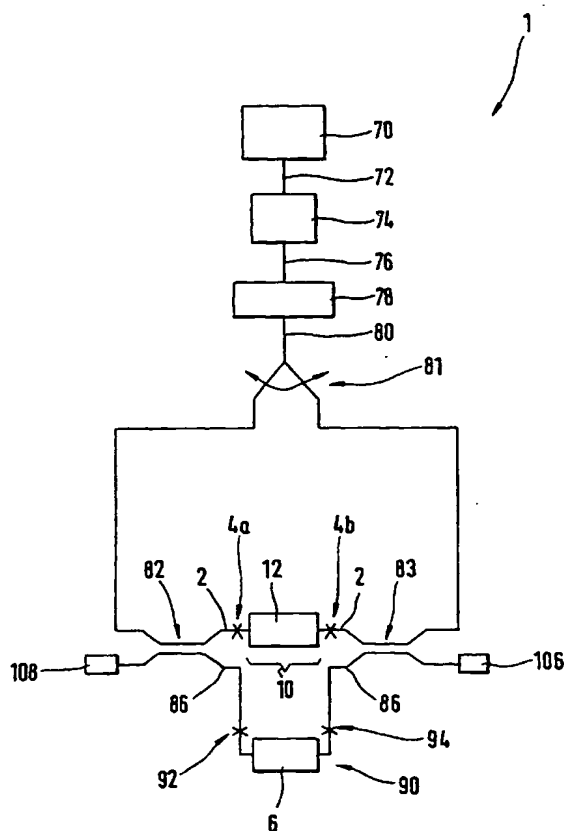
**Published:**  
— *with international search report*

**(72) Inventors; and**

(75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ZIEGLER, Patrick** [DE/DE]; Im Nebelloch 24, 71034 Boeblingen (DE). **STOLTE, Ralf** [DE/DE]; Steinmarderweg 18, 21147

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

**(54) Title:** DETERMINATION OF OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF A DEVICE UNDER TEST IN BOTH DIRECTIONS IN TRANSMISSION AND IN REFLECTION



**(57) Abstract:** The present invention relates to a method and a measurement setup for determination of optical properties of a device under test (DUT) (6) in both directions in transmission and in reflection, comprising: a coding device (81, 281, 201, 202, 203) distinguishable coding at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of a provided measurement signal (80), feeding elements (4a, 4b) feeding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) into the DUT (6) from both directions, receiving elements (106, 206, 108, 208) receiving the signals from both directions transmitted and reflected by the DUT (6), identifying at least the coded parts (80-f1, 80-f2) in the signals transmitted and reflected by the DUT (6), and analyzing at least the identified parts (80-f1, 80-f2) to determine at least one optical property of the DUT (6) from both directions in transmission and in reflection.

**WO 03/060458 A1**

## **DETERMINATION OF OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF A DEVICE UNDER TEST IN BOTH DIRECTIONS IN TRANSMISSION AND IN REFLECTION**

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

- 5 The present invention relates to determination of optical properties, e.g. polarization dependent loss (PDL), polarization mode dispersion (PMD), differential group delay (DGD), insertion loss, return loss and/or chromatic dispersion (CD), of a device under test (DUT) in both directions in transmission and in reflection of an optical beam.
- 10 Measurement setups for the above-mentioned purpose shall be as easy as possible to handle and shall reveal all optical properties of the DUT as fast as possible and with as little handling as possible. This means that the DUT should be fully characterized to all parameters required when it is once connected to the measurement setup. For a full characterization it is required to measure all
- 15 parameters both in transmission and in reflection as fast as possible.

From the disclosure of work of Sandel et al (David Sandel, Reinhold Noé, "Optical Network Analyzer applied for Fiber Bragg Grating Characterization", ECOC 97, 22-25 September 1997, Conference Publication No. 448, © IEE, 1997, pp. 186-189; David Sandel et al, "Optical Network Analysis and Longitudinal Structure

20 Characterization of Fiber Bragg Grating", Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol. 16, No. 12, December 1998, pp. 2435-2442) it is known a method for polarization-resolved optical fiber Bragg grating characterization. However, in these disclosures only the reflection of the DUT is measured.

From a work of Froggatt et al (Froggatt et al, "Full Complex Transmission and

25 Reflection Characterization of a Bragg Grating in a Single Laser Sweep", ) it is known a measurement setup to measure the group delay of a DUT in transmission and in reflection in both directions.

However, with the disclosed measurement setup it is not possible to measure PMD or PDL. Moreover, the measurement setup disclosed in this article causes problems

30 because to enable the detectors used to detect the signals of reflection and

transmission of both directions simultaneously, i.e. the reflected signal of one direction superimposed with the transmitted signal of the other direction and the transmitted signal of one direction superimposed with the reflected signal of the other direction, differences between the measurement and the reference path  
5 lengths are necessary to distinct between these signals without really knowing all impacts of these differences.

Also the different path lengths for the various signals put additional requirements onto the receiver characteristics and the DUT characteristics which may be problematic for an accurate measurement.

## 10 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, it is an object of the invention to provide improved determination of optical properties of a DUT in both directions in transmission and in reflection of an optical beam.

The object is solved by the independent claims.

15 An advantage of the present invention is that the DUT can be characterized with as little handling as possible. This means that the DUT can be fully characterized to all parameters required when it is once connected to the measurement setup. I.e. without handling of the DUT all transmission and reflection parameters can be measured in both directions.

20 In an embodiment of the invention this can be realized by using a switch to direct the incoming light to one of the ports of the DUT. This allows full characterization of the DUT by two wavelength sweeps of the tunable laser source to measure all parameters required for both directions without handling the DUT.

In another embodiment of the invention the switch is replaced by a beam splitter to  
25 provide the DUT with the laser beam from both directions simultaneously. Here the two fractions of the light propagating through the DUT in opposite directions are coded by two modulation frequencies. Then, the signals are detected by using a phase sensitive detection scheme, i.e. by a frequency selective detection.

Other preferred embodiments are shown by the dependent claims.

It is clear that the invention can be partly embodied or supported by one or more suitable software programs, which can be stored on or otherwise provided by any kind of data carrier, and which might be executed in or by any suitable data processing unit.

## 5 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Other objects and many of the attendant advantages of the present invention will be readily appreciated and become better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considering in connection with the accompanied drawings. The components in the drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis  
10 instead being placed upon clearly illustrating the principles of the present invention. Features that are substantially or functionally equal or similar will be referred to with the same reference sign(s).

Fig. 1 shows a first measurement setup according to the present invention; and

Fig. 2 shows a second measurement setup according to the present invention.

15

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now in greater detail to the drawings, Fig. 1 shows a first embodiment 1 of a measurement setup according to the present invention for determination of optical properties of a DUT 6 in transmission and in reflection in both directions.

20 Measurement setup 1 contains a tunable light source 70 which provides a coherent laser beam 72 to a polarization controller 74 (which can be a Hewlett-Packard HP 8169A). The polarization controller 74 provides a polarization controlled coherent light beam 76 to an isolator 78. Optically connected with the isolator 78 and receiving a coherent light beam 80 from the isolator 78 is a switch 81. The switch  
25 81 is not located in the interferometric part of setup1. Optically connected with the switch 81 is a first beam splitter 82 which is a 3dB coupler. Also optically connected with the switch 81 is a second beam splitter 83 which is 3dB coupler, also. Connected to both couplers 82 and 83 is a reference arm 2 and a measurement arm 86.

30 In the measurement arm there is provided a seat 90 to receive the DUT 6. The seat

90 has two connectors 92 and 94 to enable the DUT 6 to be connected to the measurement arm 86.

In the reference arm 2 there is provided a seat 10 to receive an element 12 being 50% reflective and 50% transparent. Other ratios are possible. The seat 10 has two connectors 4a and 4b to enable the element 12 to be connected to the reference arm 2. The element 12 can further contain an adjustment element to balance the optical path lengths in setup 1, e.g. a variable delay line to allow for different lengths of the path length through the DUT 6. Alternatively and preferred, this problem can be addressed by a sufficiently narrow spacing of the measurement points in the wavelength/frequency domain. For further details of the function of the element 12 it is referred to the European patent application EP-A- 0 111 817 of the applicant. Therefore, the description of element and measurement setup given in the aforementioned application is incorporated herein by reference.

Such a measurement setup 1 can be calibrated and/or verified by a calibration and/or verification element disclosed in European patent application EP-A- 0 111 833 of the applicant. For calibration and/or verification the calibration and/or verification element is inserted in seat 10. Therefore, the description of the calibration and/or verification of the measurement setup with the calibration and/or verification element given in the aforementioned application is incorporated herein by reference.

Connected to the coupler 83 is a polarization diversity receiver (PDR) 106 to detect a superimposed signal being the superposition of the transmitted signal by the DUT 6 and a reference signal coupled in by the coupler 83 from the reference arm 2 when the switch 81 is in its position according to the solid line in Fig. 1. In this case the reference signal is coupled into the reference arm 2 by the coupler 82. If the switch 81 is in its position according to the dotted line then the PDR 106 detects a superimposed signal being the superposition of the reflected signal by the DUT 6 and a reflected reference signal coupled in by the coupler 83 from the reference arm 2. In this case the reference signal is coupled into the reference arm 2 by the coupler 83.

Connected to the coupler 82 is also a PDR 108. PDR 108 detects the superimposed signal of the reflected signal from the DUT 6 coupled in by the

coupler 82 from the reference arm and the reflected reference signal coupled in from the reference arm 2 coming from the element 12 when the switch 81 is in its position according to the solid line in Fig. 1. In this case the reference signal is coupled into the reference arm 2 by the coupler 82. If the switch 81 is in its position according to the dotted line then the PDR 108 detects a superimposed signal being the superposition of the transmitted signal by the DUT 6 and a transmitted reference signal transmitted by element 12. In this case the reference signal is coupled into the reference arm 2 by the coupler 83.

For further details it is referred to the European Patent Application 00125089.3 of the applicant the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Fig. 2 shows a second embodiment 200 of a measurement setup according to the present invention. Contrary to the embodiment 1 of Fig. 1 embodiment 200 of Fig. 2 has no switch 81. Instead in setup 200 a shunt 281 replaces switch 81. The shunt 281 provides the reference arm 2 and the measurement arm 86 with the signal 80, simultaneously. To distinct the signals propagating through the DUT 6 the two fractions of the light propagating through the DUT in opposite directions are coded by two different modulation frequencies  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  provided by two modulation units 201 and 202 providing a signal  $80\text{-}f_1$  and a signal  $80\text{-}f_2$ . Then, the signals  $80\text{-}f_1$  and  $80\text{-}f_2$  are detected by using a PDR 206 and a PDR 208 having a phase sensitive detection scheme, i.e. by a frequency selective detection. Additionally, the element 12 contains a (not shown) modulation units 203 to key all signals transmitted or reflected by the element 12 with a modulation frequency  $f_3$ .

To clarify the function of the decoding of the signals detected by PDR 206 and PDR 208 the Stokes matrix elements  $S_{11}$ ,  $S_{21}$ ,  $S_{12}$  and  $S_{22}$  are depicted in Fig. 2. Elements  $S_{11}$ ,  $S_{21}$ ,  $S_{12}$  and  $S_{22}$  can be derived from the coding frequencies  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ,  $f_3$  as follows:

At PDR 208:  $S_{11} = f_1 \pm f_3$ ,  $S_{12} = f_2 \pm f_3$ , and

at PDR 206:  $S_{21} = f_1 \pm f_3$ ,  $S_{22} = f_2 \pm f_3$ .

## CLAIMS:

1. A method of determination of optical properties of a device under test (6) in both directions in transmission and in reflection, comprising the steps of:  
  
distinguishable coding at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of a provided  
5 measurement signal (80),  
  
feeding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) into the device under test (6) from both directions,  
  
receiving the signals from both directions transmitted and reflected by the device under test (6),  
  
10 identifying at least the coded parts (80-f1, 80-f2) in the signals transmitted and reflected by the device under test (6),  
  
analyzing at least the identified parts (80-f1, 80-f2) to determine at least one optical property of the device under test (6) from both directions in transmission and in reflection.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
  
coding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) by time coding the measurement signal (80) into at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2).
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps of:  
  
time coding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal  
20 (80) by sequentially feeding one part (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) into a first path entering the device under test (6) from one direction and the other part (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) into a second path entering the device under test (6) from the other direction.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:  
  
25 sequentially feeding one part (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) into the first and the other part (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) into the second path by using a switch (81).

5. The method of any one of the claims 1-4, further comprising the steps of:

coding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) by spectral coding the measurement signal (80) into at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2).

- 5 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

spectral coding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) by splitting the measurement signal (80) into at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) and modulating the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) with different frequency or amplitude modulations.

- 10 7. The method of any one of claims 1-6, further comprising the steps of:

providing a reference signal for the signal transmitted by the device under test (6) and/or providing a reference signal for the signal reflected by the device under test (6), for at least one of both directions,

15 distinguishable coding the provided reference signal by spectral coding the reference signal.

8. A software program or product, preferably stored on a data carrier, for executing the method of one of the claims 1 to 7 when run on a data processing system such as a computer.

- 20 9. A measurement setup for determination of optical properties of a device under test (6) in both directions in transmission and in reflection, comprising:

a coding device (81, 281, 201, 202, 203) distinguishable coding at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of a provided measurement signal (80),

feeding elements (4a, 4b) feeding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) into the device under test (6) from both directions in transmission and in reflection,

25 receiving elements (106, 206, 108, 208) receiving the signals from both directions transmitted and reflected by the device under test (6), identifying at least the coded parts (80-f1, 80-f2) in the signals transmitted and reflected by the device under test (6), and analyzing at least the identified parts (80-f1, 80-



f2) to determine at least one optical property of the device under test (6) from both directions in transmission and in reflection.

10. The setup of claim 9,

5 wherein the coding device (81, 281, 201, 202, 203) further comprises a switch (81) sequentially feeding one part (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) into a first path entering the device under test (6) from one direction and the other part (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) into a second path entering the device under direction.

11. The setup of claims 9 or 10,

10 wherein the coding device (81, 281, 201, 202, 203) further comprises a beam splitter (281) splitting the measurement signal (80) into at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) and a modulating device (281, 201, 202, 203) spectrally coding the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) of the measurement signal (80) by modulating the at least two parts (80-f1, 80-f2) with different frequency or amplitude  
15 modulations.

Fig.1

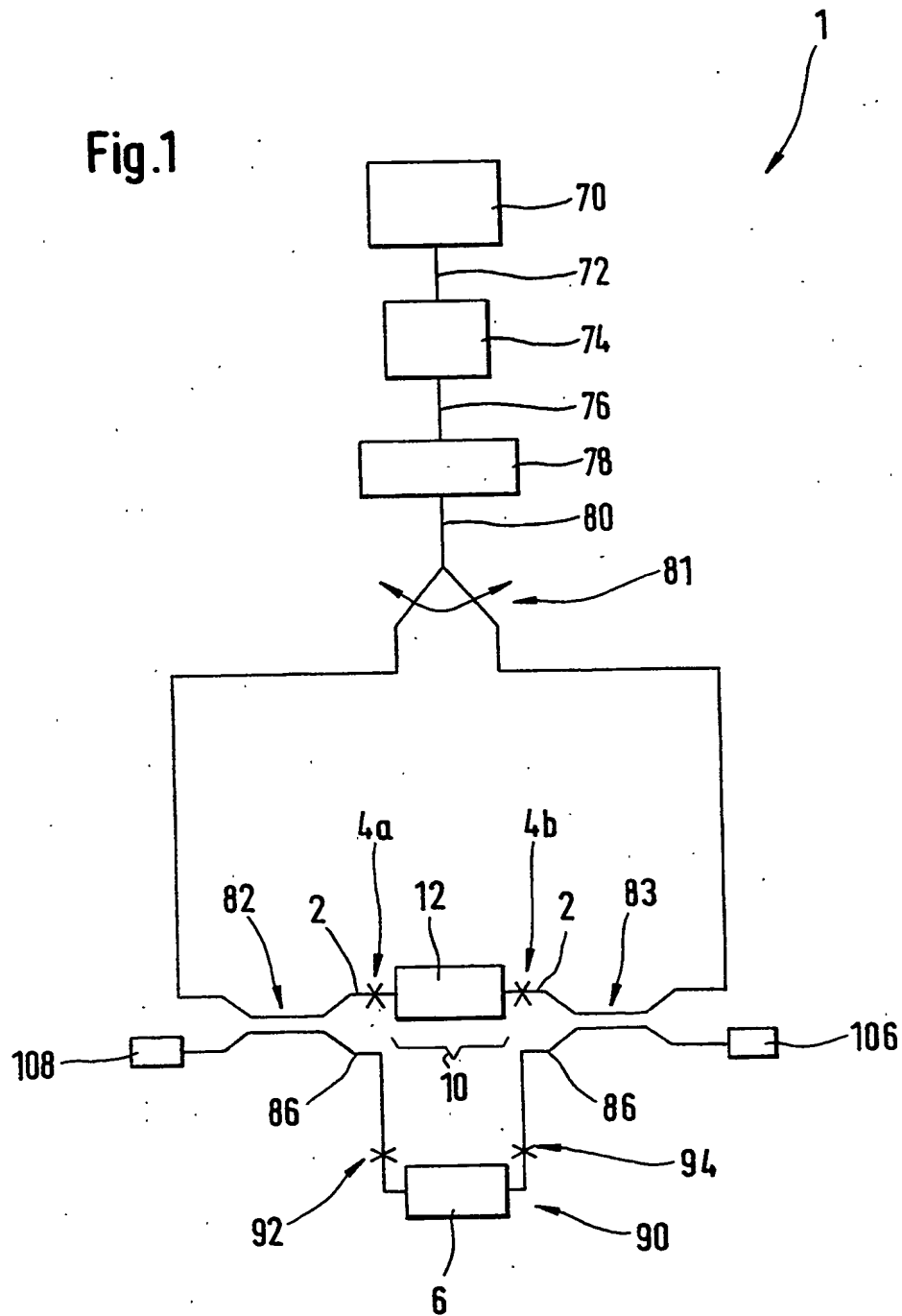
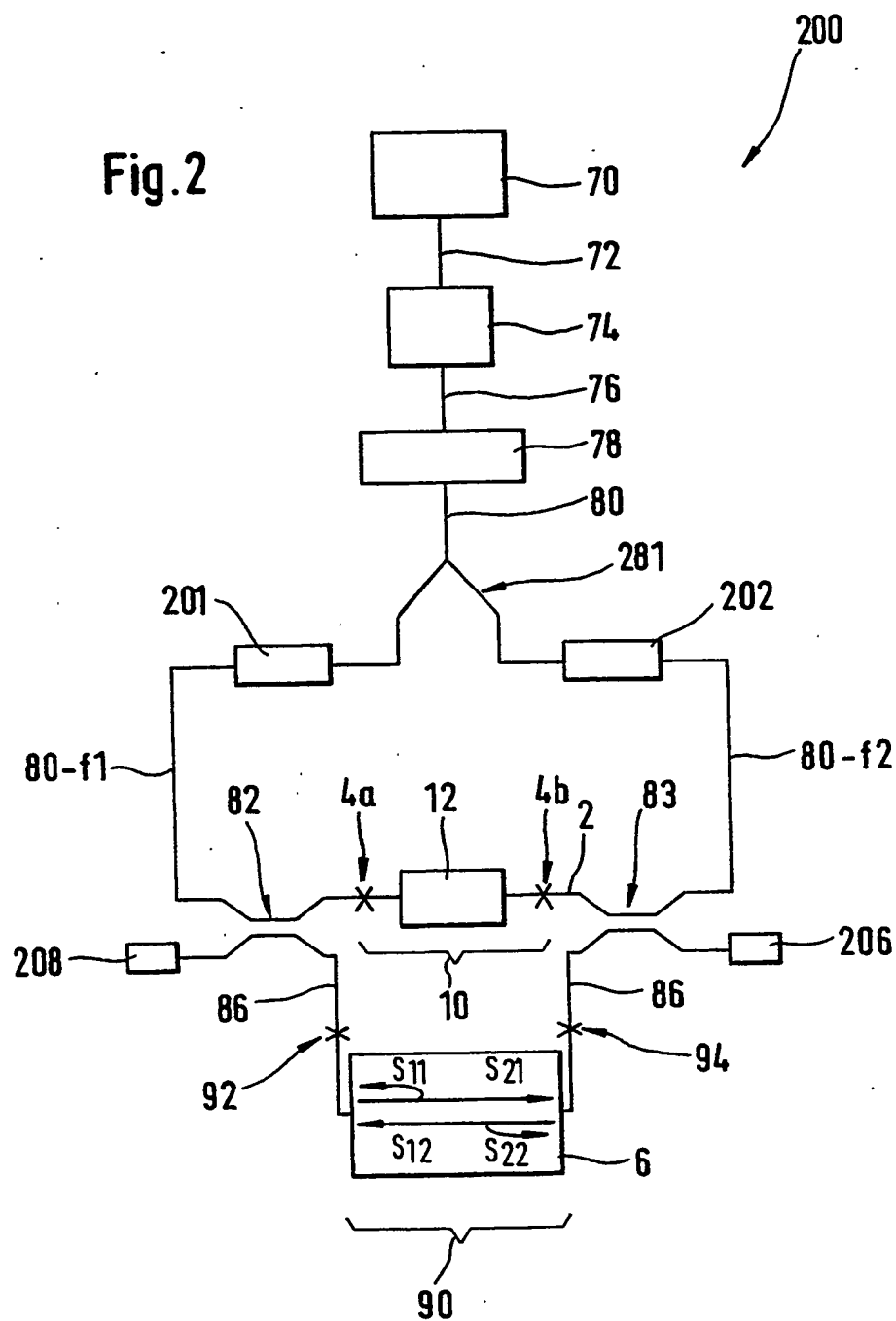


Fig. 2



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP 02/00429

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01M11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, EPO-Internal, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	GB 1 376 245 A (RANK ORGANISATION LTD) 4 December 1974 (1974-12-04) page 2	1
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 015, no. 019 (P-1153), 16 January 1991 (1991-01-16) & JP 02 262037 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), 24 October 1990 (1990-10-24) abstract	1
A	US 5 223 708 A (VAN DEVENTER BRUCE) 29 June 1993 (1993-06-29) claims 1-24	1-11
A	EP 0 574 601 A (STARK EDWARD W) 22 December 1993 (1993-12-22) claims 19-24	1-11
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 October 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/10/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Dietrich, A

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/00429

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 674 872 A (WRIGHT STEPHEN) 23 June 1987 (1987-06-23) column 2 -column 4 ----	1
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 011, no. 112 (P-565), 9 April 1987 (1987-04-09) & JP 61 260141 A (MITSUTOYO MFG CO LTD), 18 November 1986 (1986-11-18) abstract ----	1
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 005, no. 198 (E-087), 16 December 1981 (1981-12-16) & JP 56 122173 A (OMRON TATEISI ELECTRONICS CO), 25 September 1981 (1981-09-25) abstract ----	1
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 013, no. 043 (P-821), 31 January 1989 (1989-01-31) & JP 63 238452 A (NEC CORP), 4 October 1988 (1988-10-04) abstract ----	1
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 013, no. 120 (P-846), 24 March 1989 (1989-03-24) & JP 63 292004 A (KOBE STEEL LTD), 29 November 1988 (1988-11-29) abstract -----	1

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/00429

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
GB 1376245	A	04-12-1974	CH	556579 A	29-11-1974
			DE	2302734 A1	26-07-1973
			FR	2168480 A1	31-08-1973
			IT	977632 B	20-09-1974
			JP	48082836 A	06-11-1973
JP 02262037	A	24-10-1990	JP	2703324 B2	26-01-1998
US 5223708	A	29-06-1993	NONE		
EP 0574601	A	22-12-1993	EP	0574601 A1	22-12-1993
			DE	69227025 D1	22-10-1998
			DE	69227025 T2	02-06-1999
US 4674872	A	23-06-1987	GB	2138234 A	17-10-1984
			CA	1219465 A1	24-03-1987
			EP	0125758 A2	21-11-1984
			JP	59206738 A	22-11-1984
JP 61260141	A	18-11-1986	NONE		
JP 56122173	A	25-09-1981	NONE		
JP 63238452	A	04-10-1988	NONE		
JP 63292004	A	29-11-1988	NONE		